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## SOVIETS IMPROVE SHEET METAL AND CASTING TECHNOLOGY

ROLLING SHEET FROM LIQUID PIGS -- Leningrad, Leningradskaya Pravda, 12 Jun 53

Sheet metal is very widely used in the USSR economy. No industry can do without it; the demand for it has been particularly great in the building, agricultural, transportation, and several local industries in recent years.

There are many difficulties involved in the production of sheet metal. Its manufacture requires large shops with complex, expensive equipment. Such production complexities hinder the wide use of this important material.

To alleviate these disadvantages, a group of Soviet scholars has developed an entirely new method of producing sheet metal. This method consists of the rolling of liquid cast iron and eliminates the necessity for teeming boxes, molds, and bottom plates.

The innovation of this simple and inexpensive method of rolling sheet metal makes it possible to produce sheets from 0.5 to 1.2 millimeters thick. Moreover, the cast iron sheet is corrosion resistant, possesses considerable strength, has a smooth surface, and is flexible. Since it does not rust, it requires no painting, although it takes paint well without any preliminary surface treatment. This property is of particular importance to the roofing industry. Another significant advantage is that any shop having a cupola furnace may produce such sheet metal.

Tens of thousands of tons of sheet cast iron will be produced during 1953 to neet increasing consumer demands.

INCREASED CASTING EFFICIENCY -- Moscow, Vechernyaya Moskva, 28 May 53

The foundry industry has been given the task of improving quality, increasing production, and effecting economies during the Fifth-Five Year Plan.

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| The greatest metal economy may be achieved by reducing the number of rejects and decreasing machining allowances.  The use of the so called "closed casting heads" /molds? in shaped castings can decrease liquid steel consumption by as much as 40 percent. The util*(zation of centrifugal casting in tube manufacture can bring a 20-percent weight decrease in the tubes and can increase tube production by four or five times.  The use of high-quality cast iron and the application of the proper casting technology were responsible for the successful production of corrosion resistant, chemically stable, heat and wear resistant cast parts weighing as much as 20 tons.  The USSR still has a considerable way to go before it attains optimum casting productivity. Many foundries still have rather primitive equipment, but further economies may be expected when they are finally mechanized.  - END - | Γ | ·   |          |
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